



THE NEW SENIOR CENTER — AMENITIES GALORE

Since Grand Opening, activities are in full swing at Life Lane!

WELLNESS

Fitness Room, Dance Studio, Table Tennis, Walking Trail, Shuffle Board & Pickleball Courts



LEISURE

Billiards Tables, Music Studio, & Ceramics Rooms



LEARNING

2 Classrooms, 2 Conference Rooms, & Library



300

Average daily attendance

2150

New participants

SOCIALIZATION

Card Game Area, Café, & Dining Areas



Our Participants

40%

between ages 60 – 69

40%

between ages 70 – 79

20%

over the age of 80

OUR REFOCUS ON SERVICE

Chris Ford | Commissioner's Corner

Performance Quality Improvement

Optimistically, I project calendar year 2017 will be both fast-paced and monumental for Social Services. The department's reaccreditation site visit is scheduled for later this fall. And as we're updating our strategic plan, we've



established *Continuous Improvement* as a top goal. To achieve success, our leadership team realizes we should not embark upon this challenge alone. Through *Performance Quality Improvement*, or *PQI*, we will mobilize the energy and insights of staff members all across the department. In large part, it's our operational support staff and programmatic team members, whose daily engagement in client services afford us valuable perspectives, on how to best analyze client data and evaluate current administrative processes.

A practical, yet inspiring illustration of PQI can be found at the Juvenile Probation Office. Systematic staff input and group advocacy led to the design and construction of a more accessible visitor entry (AKA the Fish Bowl), creating a safer and more secure work environment.

To move forward, I nominated and appointed a new PQI Committee for the department. With a balance of veteran PQI leaders and newcomers to the process, Social Services is poised to take the next step towards further developing a client – oriented culture of quality improvement. I thank our PQI Committee for agreeing to serve. Our leadership team looks forward to working closely with staff to adopt this goal into the everyday operations of our diverse services and programs.



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PQI COMMITTEE:

Paula Campbell
Youth Services

Keri Allen
Aging Services

Juan Lewis
Family Services

Jack Walker
Youth Services

Jode Rose
Aging Services

Tricia Platt
Family Services

Vanna Armstrong
Family Services

Leigh Shotton
Youth Services

John Rhodes
Adult Services

Robin Wilkerson
Adult Services

Theo Hersey
Youth Services

Karen Hacker
Family Services

Vanessa Grossl
Multicultural Affairs

Theresa Maynard
Commissioner's Office

Stephanie Hong
Youth Services

THE POWER OF VOLUNTEERS



Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Lexington is a local non-profit that serves abused and neglected children. Through the power of volunteer advocacy, CASA of Lexington works to ensure that all victims of child abuse and neglect are given a chance to thrive in a safe, permanent home. CASA's trained and supervised volunteers provide an independent voice for children, one child at a time, by speaking for their best interests, in the venue of the family court system.

CASA has seen wonderful growth over the past several years, but there is still great need. In 2016, there were 1,377 substantiated cases of abuse and neglect in Fayette County. While CASA was able to serve 398 of these children, over 900 children were left without the voice of an advocate.



Melynda Jamison, CASA Lexington Director at the 2016 CASA Super Hero Run

Recently, CASA of Lexington received grant funding through state funds to hire two additional Volunteer Managers. State statute requires one paid staff Volunteer Manager for every 30 advocates/volunteers. Therefore, programs can only serve as many children as they can raise funds to pay staff. The program is currently on track to serve over 500 children in our community in 2017, or an estimated 36% of the need.

For more information on CASA of Lexington, including ways to get involved, to become a CASA advocate, or to make a donation, please visit CASA's website at www.lexingtoncasa.com.



www.facebook.com/lexingtoncasa



@CASAofLexington

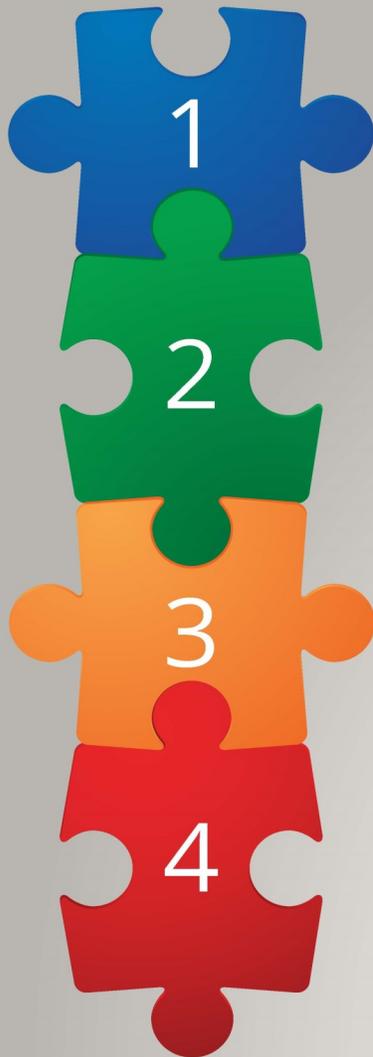


@casaoflexington

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month



Extended Social Resource (ESR) Grant Program Priority Areas – FY2018 & FY2019



Community Wellness & Safety

Programs and services for Public Health, Mental Health, Substance Abuse Recovery and Treatment, and Violence Prevention

\$1,234,170 12 Awards

Childhood & Youth Development

Programs and services for early learning opportunities for Pre-K and elementary students, and positive youth engagement

\$597,080 12 Awards

Food Insecurity & Nutritional Access

Programs and services addressing hunger, access to affordable, nutritious food, and providing nutritional services

\$436,400 11 Awards

Emergency Shelter

Provide low-barrier, housing-oriented emergency shelter for individuals and families experiencing homelessness

\$762,350 6 Awards

\$3.03 Million Annually



LEXINGTON
Social Services

Each fiscal year, the Mayor and Urban County Council allocate funds for use by selected 501(c)(3) non-profit partner agencies for the Department of Social Services' Extended Social Resource (ESR) Grant Program. These agencies are diverse in their missions and work plans, and provide services to the most vulnerable populations in our community.

This grant cycle covers both LFUCG Fiscal Years 2018 & 2019. The Mayor's Proposed Budget allocates approximately \$3.03 million dollars for Fiscal Year 2018. ESR encompasses four Priority Areas, each having Request for Proposals issued by LFUCG.

A list of grantees can be found on page 5 of this edition of *The Loop*.

COMMUNITY AGENCIES AWARDED ESR GRANTS

Mayor Jim Gray's proposed budget includes funding for ESR Grants. Thirty-three (33) agencies are recommended for awards during this grant cycle, of which seven (7) agencies would receive two or more grant awards. Eighty (80) proposals were received and evaluated for the ESR Program, with total requests of approximately \$8.7 million. The Urban County Council is scheduled to adopt a final budget in June.

An alphabetical list of grantee agencies for Fiscal Year 2018 is below.

Agency	Priority Area(s)	Award
Aids Volunteers, Inc. (AVOL)	Community Wellness & Safety	\$59,800
Arbor Youth Services *	Community Wellness & Safety; Emergency Shelter	\$207,000
Baby Health Service, Inc.	Community Wellness & Safety	\$38,640
Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Bluegrass, Inc.	Childhood & Youth Development	\$74,290
Blue Grass Community Action Partnership	Food Insecurity & Nutritional Access	\$18,170
Bluegrass Care Navigators (Hospice)	Community Wellness & Safety	\$10,500
Carnegie Center for Literacy and Learning	Childhood & Youth Development	\$73,600
Children's Advocacy Center of the Bluegrass	Community Wellness & Safety	\$110,400
Children's Law Center, Inc.	Childhood & Youth Development	\$23,000
Chrysalis House, Inc.	Community Wellness & Safety	\$119,600
Community Action Council *	Food Insecurity; Emergency Shelter	\$103,040
Food Chain *	Childhood & Youth Development; Food Insecurity	\$78,360
GleanKY (Faith Feeds of Kentucky)	Food Insecurity & Nutritional Access	\$9,200
God's Pantry Food Bank	Food Insecurity & Nutritional Access	\$194,580
GreenHouse17 *	Food Insecurity; Emergency Shelter	\$150,420
Hope Center, Inc. *	Comm Wellness; Food Insecurity; Emerg Shelter	\$730,000
Kidney Health Alliance of Kentucky (KHAKY)	Food Insecurity & Nutritional Access	\$12,970
Lexington Leadership Foundation *	Community Wellness; Childhood & Youth Dev	\$138,000
Lexington Rescue Mission *	Community Wellness & Safety; Food Insecurity	\$60,720
Living Arts & Science Center	Childhood & Youth Development	\$50,600
Moveable Feast Lexington, Inc.	Food Insecurity & Nutritional Access	\$36,800
NAMI Lexington	Community Wellness & Safety	\$72,310
New Life Day Center	Emergency Shelter	\$12,650
Repairers Lexington, Inc.	Childhood & Youth Development	\$9,200
Seedleaf, SEEDS	Childhood & Youth Development	\$41,400
The Foster Care Council of LexKy	Childhood & Youth Development	\$23,000
The Methodist Home of KY, Inc.	Community Wellness & Safety	\$92,000
The Nest - Center for Women, Children & Families	Childhood & Youth Development	\$82,800
The Nursing Home Ombudsman Agency	Community Wellness & Safety	\$50,600
The Salvation Army	Emergency Shelter	\$209,300
Tweens Nutrition and Fitness Coalition, Inc.	Food Insecurity & Nutritional Access	\$30,100
Visually Impaired Preschool Services (VIPS)	Childhood & Youth Development	\$63,940
YMCA of Central Kentucky	Childhood & Youth Development	\$43,010

* indicates multiple awards

ESR Funding Total:

\$3,030,000

NETWORK ALERTS



LEXINGTON



Lanter leads Grants Office

Congrats to Charlie Lanter, who recently was appointed the city's new Director of Grants and Special Programs. Charlie began his new role in late March, after serving nearly 3 years as the Director of the Office of Homelessness Prevention and Intervention.

Charlie succeeds Irene Gooding, who retired in February, after a long career in the Grants Office. The Dept. of Social Services is eager to continue our partnership with Charlie, and we pledge our support to his new team in Grants.

Spires joins School Board

The Fayette County School Board has a new member representing District 4. Stephanie Spires was appointed by Kentucky Education Commissioner Stephen Pruitt in February following the resignation of longtime school board member Amanda Ferguson.

Stephanie is the former Executive Director of Arbor Youth Services, and a former member of the city's Homelessness Prevention and Intervention Board. She brings a valuable community perspective to our school district.

God's Pantry names CEO

Michael Halligan began work as Chief Executive Officer of God Pantry Food Bank on January 3rd. In leading the regional hunger relief organization, he succeeds Marian Guinn, who retired last summer after a transformational 19 year tenure at God's Pantry.

Michael brings 25 years of experience in the food industry, and most recently was Senior Director with ConAgra Foods in the Chicago area. We, at Social Services, extend Michael a warm welcome to Lexington.

To sign up for future newsletter alerts, email dsssosocialmedia@lexingtonky.gov

WELCOME ABOARD!

The Department of Social Services is made up of approximately 115 full-time employees. We're a close-knit group, and we're always excited to have new talent join our team.

Rania Belmadani

Language Access Specialist, Multicultural Affairs

Willie Booker

Eligibility Counselor, Adult & Tenant Services

Wendy Jett

Recreation Supervisor, Aging & Disability Services

Martha McFarland

Recreation Specialist Senior, Aging & Disability Services

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
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www.facebook.com/LexKYSocialServices
[@LexKySocialServ](https://twitter.com/LexKySocialServ)

KUDOS & HANDCLAPS



Recognizing Special Contributions of Our Staff

On a daily basis, Social Services staff members are teaming with colleagues in the office, or lending support to community initiatives. We don't overlook the hard work and energy our team gives, with commitment and dedication. So with **Kudos & Handclaps**, we highlight just a few of these efforts worthy of special mention:

- Our students and seniors participants joined in the **On the Table** initiative, by hosting engagement sessions at Day Treatment Center and the Senior Center. This was a great experience for Social Services to be a part of the March 15th citywide effort, which was coordinated by Bluegrass Community Foundation, Lexington Division of Planning, and Leadership Lexington.
- Salute to Family Care Center's volunteer master gardener, **Tee Bergman**. Tee has cared for the Center's landscaping for many years, including our plants, flowers and trees. And more recently, Tee created the Center's first pollinator garden!
- Shout out to Youth Development Center and Adult Services staff for organizing an Open House for the **Principal's Reading Lab!** Located in the Black & Williams Neighborhood Center, the Reading Lab is for youth up to 12 years old. We hope families will stop by to find an interesting book...or two.
- Spring is always a busy time for Aging Services, as area seniors convene to learn and share ideas. According to tradition, the annual **GAP Conference** (Grandparents as Parents) in March, and **I Know Expo** in April, were well attended and widely supported.
- With the investment of community stakeholders, Partners for Youth again facilitated youth activities during spring break at Douglass Park and Valley Park. Thanks to all who helped make **Adopt-a-Park** a festive time for West End and Cardinal Valley neighborhood kids.
- A big thank you to our 18 Social Services staff members who served on the **ESR Grant Evaluation Committees**. 80 proposals were evaluated, and over 760 hours dedicated exclusively to review of written proposals, and deliberation of formal agency presentations.

STAY CONNECTED WITH US ONLINE

Did you know there are more than **100 drug & alcohol recovery resources** in Kentucky?

GetHelpLex.org
Recovery Starts Here



www.facebook.com/partners4youth
[@P4YLex](https://twitter.com/P4YLex)



www.facebook.com/LexStopDV
[@LexStopDV](https://twitter.com/LexStopDV)